

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 ACDA-05 /072 W

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P 170258Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1467

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5339

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS KS KN

SUBJECT: NORTHWEST ISLAND INCIDENT

REF: A STATE 167069 B SEOUL 5244

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 0216 HOURS (LOCAL) JULY 12, THREE NORTH KOREAN FISHING BOATS ENTERED THE WATERS CONTIGUOUS TO PAENGYONG DO, REACHING A POSITION ABOUT TWO MILES WEST OF THE ISLAND. AT APPROXIMATELY 0220 A NORTH KOREAN PATROL BOAT JOINED THE FISHING BOATS.
 2. ROK FORCES ON THE ISLAND FIRED 90 MM, 105 AND 3 INCH HIGH EXPLOSIVE AND ILLUMINATION ROUNDS AS WARNING TO NORTHERN BOATS. NO DAMAGE TO BOATS REPORTED. ALL BOATS WITHDREW TO INTERNATIONAL WATERS BY 0316 HOURS. TWO OTHER NORTH KOREAN BOATS WERE IN AREA BUT REMAINED OUTSIDE CONTIGUOUS WATERS.
 3. ROK PRESS QUOTES MND SPOKESMAN AS SAYING INTRUSION WAS DELIBERATE TEST OF VIGILANCE ROK DEFENSE FORCES ON ISLAND. HE WARNED THAT DEFENSE FORCES WOULD SINK VESSELS INVOLVED IN FUTURE "DELIBERATE ACTS OF PROVOCATION."
 4. THERE IS NO CONCRETE EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT INTRUSION WAS DELIBERATE TEST, RATHER THAN ACCIDENTAL
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STRAYING OF FISHING BOATS. ON JULY 14 UNCMAC MADE LOW

KEY PROTEST THROUGH JOINT DUTY OFFICER, REPORTING TO
NORTH CONTIGUOUS WATERS VIOLATION AND ASKING OTHER SIDE
TO INVESTIGATE INCIDENT.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS, FISHING BOATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL05339
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750246-0725
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750746/aaaabphw.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 167069, 75 SEOUL 5244
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTHWEST ISLAND INCIDENT
TAGS: MOPS, KS, KN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006